

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 IO-03 EUR-08

L-01 SAJ-01 EB-03 PM-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NEA-07

SAM-01 /058 W

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R 290537Z JKL 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5898

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10333

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RPT, UR

SUBJECT: GOP RECOGNITION OF USSR

REF: MANILA 9964 (NOTAL)

1. WHEN I SAW PRESIDENT MARCOS JULY 28, HE SURPRISED ME BY SAYING THAT HE DOUBTED HE WOULD VISIT MOSCOW "THIS YEAR." HE FURTHER SURPRISED ME BY SAYING THAT CURRENT PHILIPPINE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION WERE LIMITED TO THE CONCLUSION OF A TRADE AGREEMENT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE MISSIONS IN MOSCOW AND MANILA.

2. IN VIEW INFORMATION I RECEIVED FROM ROMULO (REFTEL) I  
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ASKED WHETHER MARCOS THOUGHT SOVIETS WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH TRADE MISSION WHILE PEKING HAD AN EMBASSY. MARCOS SHRUGGED AND SAID SOVIETS HAD ONLY RAISED PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT SIZE OF THEIR MISSION AND THEIR DESIRE GIVE FULL DIPLOMATIC STATUS TO ITS MEMBERS. MARCOS SAID HE DOUBTED THE ISSUES "WOULD BE RESOLVED" IN NEXT FEW WEEKS AND HE DID NOT WANT TO GO TO MOSCOW AFTER AUGUST.

3. HE GAVE THREE REASONS FOR END OF AUGUST AS HIS CUT-OFF DATE; (A) IT WOULD BEGIN TO GET COLD IN MOSCOW IN SEPTEMBER, ASEAN SUMMIT MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE THAT EARLY, AND (C) HE HAD TOO MUCH TO DO AT HOME TO CONSIDER AN EXTENSIVE TRIP AWAY FROM PHILIPPINES.

4. DESPITE THESE RATHER DEFINITIVE STATEMENTS, PHILIPPINE BUREAUCRACY KEEP GRINDING AWAY ON PLANS FOR MARCOS VISIT TO MOSCOW IN LATE AUGUST. PALACE OFFICIAL TOLD ME JULY 29 THAT STOPS ARE BEING PLANNED IN CAIRO AND JIDDA. RUMORS PERSIST THAT AMBASSADOR REYES (UN) WILL VISIT MOSCOW NEXT WEEK AS ADVANCE MAN. MOREOVER, MOST PLANNING HERE IS BASED ON ASEAN MEETING IN DECEMBER RATHER THAN SEPTEMBER.

5. COMMENT: MARCOS WAS QUITE CATEGORIC IN HIS STATEMENTS AND IT IS NOT RPT NOT HIS PRACTICE TO MISLEAD ON FACTUAL MATTERS OF THIS SORT. IF HE HAS REALLY DECIDED TO PUT RP RELATIONS WITH USSR IN COLD STORAGE FOR REMAINDER THIS YEAR, SUCH DECISION WOULD APPEAR TO REPRESENT A CONSIDERABLE "LEAN" TOWARDS PEKING AND ABANDONMENT OF EVEN-HANDED PHILIPPINES POLICY BETWEEN MOSCOW AND PEKING. SULLIVAN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* LIMDIS  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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